



The Arlington Advocate

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FRIGID FUN



Katarina Gentile, 3, drags her sled across the icy snow at Robbins Farm. The recent blast of snow and cold has made the Arlington Heights park a perfect place to sled.

STAFF PHOTO BY LISA CASSIDY

Insurance costs put town in red

FinCom: Level funding in '02

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

This much is agreed upon by everyone: Arlington's budget is not looking pretty.

Finance Committee Allan Tosti told the members of the Budget and Revenue Task Force Monday night that based upon estimates of projected balance sheet items for the FY '02 fiscal year, the town has a nearly \$2.1 million deficit on its hands.

That number is based on an expected \$82.8 million in revenues, subtracted by nearly \$85 million in expenditures.

Tosti produced a whittled-down sheet of expected new revenue — countered with new expenses — which revealed the bulk of the deficits.

Tosti and Selectman Charles Lyons pointed to a \$1.9 million increase in town employee health insurance and a \$750,000 increase in trash removal costs.

That number triples the average increase in health care costs the last two years, Tosti said.

"The last two years, we've seen a \$600,000 increase," said Tosti.

"When I looked at this year's budget, I was estimating approximately the same."

Two factors weigh in. One is the cost of health care, which Lyons criticized the state for.

"They don't have a plan for managing this health-care crisis," said Lyons, noting the 20 percent increase this year.

In addition, there's simply more people. Particularly in the school system, Tosti said, a lot of people have retired, and they have to be replaced. But the town has to pay the health insurance of both those leaving and those coming in.

Tosti also reserved large chunks of money for contract negotiations for the educational department and other town divisions. Both account for another \$2 million in expenses, based on an approximate increase of "3 to 4 percent."

"The school contract's already done," he said. "The school department already has to deal with it. We might have to revisit the whole issue for contracts not settled."

■ SEE BUDGET, PAGE 10

Alewife proposal is put on hold

Center business looks to expand — or move

BY ARTHUR KATZ
CORRESPONDENT

Plans for a six-story office building in the Belmont Uplands area, adjoining the Alewife Reservation, have been put on hold by O'Neill Properties Group, the owner of the site.

The Environmental Notification Form (ENF) submitted to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs by O'Neill on Nov. 30 "has been withdrawn from further MEPA [Massachusetts Environmental Protection Act] review until further notice," according to an undated memorandum from Epsilon Associates Inc., O'Neill's environmental consultants.

Approval by MEPA is required under Massachusetts law for a project this size, and the withdrawal effectively stops development for the time being.

The proposal for the \$58 million, 291,000-square-foot building required rezoning of the area, which has been under a development moratorium in Belmont since last April's annual Town Meeting in that town. The project has been under attack from conservation and environmental activists in Belmont, Arlington, and Cambridge because of the potential for damage to the adjacent reservation lands, the possible environmental impact on the

■ SEE BELMONT UPLANDS, PAGE 12

BY LES G. MASTERSON
STAFF WRITER

One of the town's largest employers is at capacity and needs to expand. However, expansion would mean either developing or searching for dozens of parking spaces in Arlington Center — a feat becoming increasingly more difficult.

Simpson, Gumpertz, and Heger Inc., located at 297 Broadway, is looking to increase from 125 employees to around 200 employees.

"We're out of space," said Glen Bell, Simpson, Gumpertz, and Heger's chief executive officer. "We've outgrown our building."

Located at the corner of Broadway and Alton Street, in a former car dealership, auto body, and gas company, the business has been in town since 1983. The engineering firm has two other offices, San Francisco and Washington, D.C., and has worked on the structural design of the Lowell Spinners' Edward A. LeLachur Park and Spaceship Earth at Epcot Center, which is the Disney park's signa-

ture globe.

The company wants to stay in the Center, but is afraid it will have to move if it is not able to expand.

"We're really here looking for help and trying to make a decision if we can stay in the Center," said Simpson, Gumpertz, and Heger representative Paul Kelley at Monday's Redevelopment Board meeting.

Planning and Community Development Director Alan McClellenn told *The Advocate* Tuesday that he has been informally discussing the company's space crunch with firm representatives for around four years. When Simpson, Gumpertz, and Heger moved to Arlington, the company only needed half the building. However, those 65 initial employees have almost doubled and the company has stretched the building to its max.

"As they moved toward full capacity, we had meetings with them just talking about alternatives if they needed to do something," said McClellenn. "Now, they're at capacity. That changes



the level of discussion. We decided the best thing to do is share the very preliminary discussion with the Redevelopment Board."

Company representatives met with the board on Monday and spoke of their love for Arlington Center and initial hunting in nearby communities.

■ SEE SIMPSON, PAGE 12

Officials ponder parking deck at Russell Common

BY LES G. MASTERSON
STAFF WRITER

With Simpson, Gumpertz, and Heger, Inc.'s plea for a larger facility, business representatives and town officials are searching for more parking spaces.

Parking is a cherished gem for those who are able to park in the Center during peak hours. Each new Center proposal that comes before the Redevelopment Board includes discussions about parking — or the lack thereof.

However, Simpson, Gumpertz, and Heger's representatives are also wondering if the town could build a parking deck at the Russell Common lot. The lot, which was once open space on Mystic and Chestnut streets, is filled during peak hours. In fact, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger said they only have one space set aside for the company in the lot.

A deck would add spaces and Simpson, Gumpertz, and Heger representatives said they would gobble up a number of parking spots at the lot, if the town built a parking deck. They added that the company could participate in a long-term lease for a number of the spots.

Planning and Community Development

■ SEE DECK, PAGE 12

Police end probe into November rape case

BY LES G. MASTERSON
STAFF WRITER

Police have suspended its investigation into an alleged rape that a woman reported took place on Nov. 5, when she said she was picked up by five men on Harlow Street.

"The investigation has been suspended due to a variety of inconsistencies in the alleged victim's statements and the lack of any physical evidence to support the allegations," said Fred Ryan, director of the Arlington Police Department, declining to elaborate.

The alleged victim, a 23-year-old Arlington resident, told police in November that she was walking at night on Massachusetts Avenue, near the Mass Convenience Store, when she noticed a dark-colored sedan, possibly a Lincoln, whose driver was acting suspiciously.

The woman said she turned onto Harlow Street, where the car pulled alongside her. Five men, one carrying a 9 mm handgun, told her to get into the car, she told police.

■ SEE POLICE, PAGE 12

Residents remember 'The Dream' Monday

Annual event promotes work of King

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Everyone knows that Martin Luther King spoke for racial equality.

But there are other times when he spoke words such as these.

"I'm much more than a civil rights leader..."

"There must be a better distribution of wealth..."

"We can't have a system where some of the people live in superfluous, inordinate wealth while others live in abject, deadening poverty."

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Chairman Julian Bond used these passages from King to praise him as not just a civil rights leader, but a man who fought for economic justice everywhere.

It's in this vein that housing advocate Jack Cooper will speak at the 13th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance scheduled for Monday, Jan. 15 at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Arlington. The evening begins with a potluck dinner in the church banquet hall. Those attending are asked to bring a

main dish or dessert to serve six adults.

Following this dinner, the program will begin in the church sanctuary at 7:30 p.m.

Other events before the speaker include singing by Yvette Mitchell, a student at Tufts University, who will perform solo. A children's choir conducted by Arlington resident and music teacher Frank Toppa will also perform.

"(We're) trying to connect issues that connect us all," said Janice Bakey, MLK Birthday Observance Committee of Arlington committee member. "Economic justice was a very big part of King's message."

Cooper is the executive director of the Massachusetts Union of Public Housing Tenants. His work to provide housing rights for 85,000 public housing tenants in Massachusetts will shape his remarks about equality in society at large.

Cooper is also a committee member for the U.S. HUD Rule Making Committee for Public Housing Operating Subsidy, and he is the vice president and chairperson of the Citizen Housing and

13th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance
First Baptist Church of Arlington
819 Massachusetts Ave.
Monday, Jan. 15
6 p.m. — Potluck dinner; 7:30 p.m. — Program

Planning Association (CHAPA). In his work for HUD, Cooper is looking to design a 20-year public housing subsidy formula for the nation's public housing program.

He and his wife are long-time residents of Arlington.

"Any area where there have been past and present injustices speak to the legacy of Dr. King," said Pearl Morrison, a member of the MLK Birthday Observance Committee of Arlington. "We select anyone who has info and a story to tell."

Morrison has been on the committee since its inception and an Arlington resident for 30 years.

"The fellowship is so wonderful. It's like pouring oils over your body. It's very medicinal. You leave with more resolve to go out and do the work. It's come to the fountain time."

"It's a public acknowledgement

in a very white community," said committee member Janice Bakey. "I'm Irish, and sometimes you celebrate what you perceive as your own holidays, but you need to reach out."

In a town that's never seen many shades of brown or black or yellow, Bakey said Arlington has to preserve its own kind of diversity, an appeal that may be fading.

"It is certainly more diverse than what it was," she said. "It has a long way to go. What has attracted people in the past has been the economic diversity, and we could lose that if we haven't lost it already."

Trying to Understand

Many parts of her life, Morrison said, weave themselves into her own understanding of King's legacy.

"I've always, as a mother, as an

■ SEE MLK, PAGE 12

INSIDE

Comment	8
Food and Thought	10
Learning	6
Obituaries	16
Sports	13
What's happening	19

communityclassifieds.com

Q. Where to turn for great advice?

A. See Ask the Experts in this week's Communityclassifieds.com section.

FOR THE RECORD

POLICE LOG

The following are excerpts from the Arlington Police Department log. The information is open to the public.

Tuesday, Jan. 2

- At 9:57 a.m., a Massachusetts Avenue business reported more than \$1,600 missing from a cash deposit bag and \$190 from a safe.
- At 7:25 p.m., police responded to a call for a stolen car on Massachusetts Avenue. When police arrived, they found that the complainant had mistakenly parked the car on Milton Street.

Wednesday, Jan. 3

- At 12:26 a.m., the Police Department received a call of a suspicious man walking in the middle of Park Avenue. When police arrived, the man told them he was walking home.
- At 4:13 p.m., an Arlington firefighters told police that he was bitten on the right shin by a Maltese dog, while responding to a call on Summer Street.

Thursday, Jan. 4

- At 5:07 p.m., a Massachusetts business owner told police that cash and several items had been taken over the past six months, possibly by an employee who was recently fired. The

owner said the items missing included a Compaq laptop computer, a hard drive, a CD burner, two wireless cards, and \$500 cash.

Friday, Jan. 5

- At 11:11 a.m., police responded to a call for graffiti at Park Avenue Congregational Church, where someone wrote initials in black magic marker.
- At 3:05 p.m., the Police Department received a call for youths throwing shopping carts into Mill Brook on Mill Street. When police arrived, the youths were gone, but the carriages were in the brook.

Saturday, Jan. 6

- At 1:27 p.m., an Orvis Road resident reported that uninvited party guests had damaged a home and made threats.

Sunday, Jan. 7

- At 2:25 a.m., a Magnolia Street resident reported a threatening phone call on an answering machine.
- At 10:22 a.m., a Massachusetts Avenue business told police that someone used spray paint to portray a face blowing hearts on a rear door.
- At 11:01 a.m., a Pleasant

Arrests

Tuesday, Jan. 2

- At 6:50 p.m., police arrested Eileen M. Stocker, 35, 18 Cleveland St., and charged her on two warrants, which included two counts of larceny over \$250 and two counts of writing a false check. Officer Julie Brydges made the arrest.

Thursday, Jan. 4

- At 5:58 p.m., police arrested Pedro L. Lozada, 28, 199 Forest Hills St., Boston, and charged him with the possession of a Class D substance (marijuana) with the intent to distribute. After viewing Lozada's vehicle in East Arlington without headlights, officers were advised of the black Nissan Maxima. Police pulled over Lozada near Arlington High School and officers could smell marijuana near the car. Police found nine ounces of a substance believed to be mari-

Saturday, Jan. 6

- At 1:54 p.m., police arrested Jeffrey T. Cannon, 40, 9 Atonia St., Mattapan, and charged him on a warrant for felony larceny. The arrest was made on Massachusetts Avenue at Varnum Street by Officer Sean Hetherman.

- At 9:30 p.m., police arrested Joseph A. DeFabritius, 24, 76 Park Ave. Ext., and charged him with assault and battery on a person over the age of 60. Officer Ronald Kerr made the arrest.

Street resident told police that a person scratched his BMW's hood.

- At 1 p.m., police responded to a call on Newport Road, where

someone threw a brick through a garage door window.

- At 3 p.m., a concerned resident called police to report children sledding down Mt. Gilboa.

Just say 'no' to dieting, avoid quick fix try

If you or someone you know has resolved to lose weight this year, you're not alone. One of the most common questions I hear is, "Which diet should I go on?" This is the wrong question to ask. Since dieting involves unhealthy food restrictions over a short period of time, no diet is the right one.

A better question to ask is, "How can I lose weight and keep it off in the healthiest way possible?" Don't waste time and energy making changes that you can't imagine yourself following one year from now. If you do, you'll become a "yo-yo" dieter, who loses weight, eventually goes back to regular eating, and invariably regains the weight, and maybe even more. This is not good for the body or mind.

Health and Fitness



DINA ARONSON

To lose weight and keep it off, you must redefine what your "regular" way of eating is. Abandon the "diet" mindset. Successful, permanent

weight loss follows permanent lifestyle changes, not diets. Attaining and maintaining a healthy weight for the rest of your life require dedication, patience, and know-how.

Dedication

Think long and hard about why you want to lose weight. Write down the benefits you will reap, and refer to it as a reminder to yourself to stick with your plan. Talk to your friends and family about your new lifestyle and how important it is to you. People who have successfully kept off lost weight have made their intentions known to others, and enlisted their support. When the going gets tough, see it as a challenge to overcome, where the rewards are priceless.

Patience

Changing your body won't

happen overnight. Just as it took a long time to gain extra weight, it will take a long time to lose that weight. Like any new habit, it will become more natural over time. Keep in mind the big picture; if you find that you're slipping away from your goals, forgive yourself, learn from your mistakes, and move on. For ideas and inspiration, talk to those who have had success; read about health; taste new foods, try new activities. The process should be enjoyable, not painful.

Know how

The next column will provide you with tips you can use to plan your new lifestyle.

Dina Aronson is a registered dietitian, who lives in Arlington. If you have a question, please send it to The Arlington Advocate, 9 Meriam St., Lexington, MA 02420 and we may print it in an upcoming issue.

The Arlington Advocate

(USPS 031-900)

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NEWSROOM

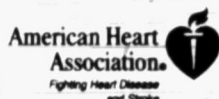
Masterson Moynihan Fronczak
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Choose Healthful Foods

The Arlington Advocate

(USPS 031-900)

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ARTS ALL AROUND - NOW THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!

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Town Online's Arts All Around Web site brings you stories, photos and reviews from CNC's Arts & More staff and the entertainment writers from the MetroWest Daily News.

Find out the latest information on movies, see film trailers, read film critic David Brudnoy's movie reviews, get the latest dining reviews from CNC restaurant critics and the Phantom Gourmet, learn about the latest theater, dance and classical music productions as well as literature news and reviews.

Arts All Around also gives you the latest information for: popular music, cd reviews, museum and exhibit showings and television highlights.

Check out Arts All Around at: www.townonline.com/arts.

GET CONNECTED

Free web sites for local groups are available through the Community Connections program at Community Newspaper Company.

Churches, marching bands and sports teams have used this program to join the World Wide Web.

Interested? Contact Deirdre O'Leary by e-mail at doleary@cnc.com or check out the program at www.townonline.com/community/registration.html

TOWN ONLINE INDEX

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- Real Estate www.townonline.com/realestate
- Town Online Business Directory www.townonline.com/shop
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AOL Keyword:
Town Online

FIRE LOG

The Arlington Fire Department responded to 85 calls from Jan. 1 to 7, including 49 with Rescue, eight fire alarms, and seven investigations. References to paramedics denote two-medical teams from Arlington Ambulance Service, a private Arlington-based ambulance company.

Monday, Jan. 1

- At 5:45 a.m., an 88-year-old Brantwood Road man complained of chest pain. Rescue placed the man on oxygen and checked his vital signs. He was taken by Rescue to Mt. Auburn Hospital with paramedics.

Tuesday, Jan. 2

- At 8:48 p.m., firefighters responded to Alpine Terrace for an 86-year-old woman, who possibly suffered a stroke. Rescue checked the woman's vital signs and placed her on oxygen. She was then placed on a long board with back and neck immobilization and taken to Lahey Clinic with paramedics.

Wednesday, Jan. 3

- At 2:15 p.m., the Fire Department received a call for a fire at a Massachusetts Avenue business. Engines 2 and 4 and Ladder 1 responded and found that the fire was above a wood stove. Engine 2 extinguished the fire, Ladder 1 used rods to break up the problem area, and Engine 4 removed the wood and extinguished the embers. There was no extension beyond the pipe area, where the fire started. Fire Prevention and the Board of Health were notified and the business was closed until there was a cleanup of the burnt materials. Fire officials estimate \$5,000 worth of damage.

Thursday, Jan. 4

- At 6:44 p.m., firefighters responded to a call for smoke in a

Pleasant Street building. When they arrived, firefighters found a slight odor coming from an apartment. They forced open the door and found an unattended pan on a burner. Firefighters removed the pan, shut off the burner, and ventilated the apartment.

Friday, Jan. 5

- At 6:59 a.m., an 84-year-old Massachusetts Avenue resident complained of shortness of breath. Rescue checked the man's vital signs and he was taken to Lawrence Memorial Hospital with paramedics.

Saturday, Jan. 6

- At 7:08 p.m., a 37-year-old Columbia Road man complained of chest pain, which was radiating to his left arm and neck. Rescue checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. He was taken to Mt. Auburn with paramedics.

Sunday, Jan. 7

- At 5:23 p.m., the Fire Department received a call for a box alarm on Mill Street. When firefighters arrived, they found a smoky condition on the building's third floor. They observed the smoke coming from an apartment. When they entered the residence, firefighters found the room full of smoke. During the investigation, they found burned food as the problem. However, they also discovered that the resident shut off the circuit breakers in her apartment, which disconnected the smoke detector in the unit. The resident was instructed not to use electrical panels to turn off lights. Capt. Bob Casey also wanted to alert residents that when a circuit breaker goes out or the power is out, electrical smoke detectors do not work.

MEETINGS

Tuesday, Jan. 16

- Spy Pond Subcommittee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second floor conference room.

Wednesday, Jan. 17

- Vision 2020 Standing Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second floor conference room.

Arlington Human Rights

Commission at 8 p.m. at the Jefferson Cutter House, One Whittemore Place, Arlington.

Thursday, Jan. 18

- Council on Aging meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Center, Conference Room, first floor, 27 Maple St.

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Bud & Bud Light	30 pk. cans	16.99*
Busch Reg. & Light	30 pack	12.99*

*plus MA deposit. Prices expire Jan. 17, 2001

Plan means another decade of digging graves in cemetery

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Arlington's dead have bought a little more time, so to speak.

The plan has been finalized to develop the last parcel of land in Arlington's Mount Pleasant Cemetery, creating approximately 11-12 years more time while the town explores and haggles over other options.

Interment rates in Arlington rest well above the national average, according to the BSC Group, consultant engineers who completed a study on the options available.

"While the national average for cremation is 50-55 percent, the average for Arlington is 25-30 percent," said Department of Public Works Director Richard Bento. BSC cited cultural and religious factors as keys to explaining the lower rate.

In all, 1,300 more lots are expected, at a cost of \$200,000. The DPW will take the money from

the Perpetual Care Fund, which has a balance of \$3.5 million. Five percent of that money is available per year, which totals \$175,000. The additional lots could generate \$2 million in revenue.

Recommendations have been forwarded to the town manager and Cemetery Commissioner to

initiate a rate study and possibly change the rates to make cremation more desirable.

The report continues to advocate the study of the Arlington-owned Great

Meadows. Great Meadows is currently an undeveloped square of land covering 183 acres, owned by Arlington and located entirely within the town borders of Lexington. The report stated that Great Meadows contained an 18-acre piece of land that would be suitable for use as a cemetery, enough for at least 75 years of grave digging.

That possibility has been met with caution by open-space advocates.

'While the national average for cremation is 50-55 percent, the average for Arlington is 25-30 percent.'

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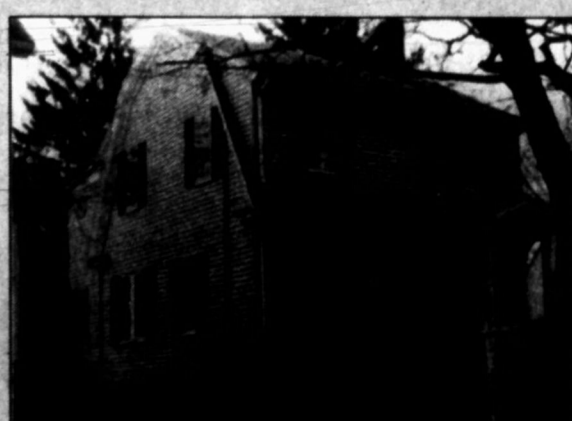
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Flu shots available Sunday

Your community visiting nurse association, Visiting Nurse & Community Health, Inc., Arlington, will be administering flu shots at the CVS in East Arlington on Sunday, Jan. 14, from 1-3 p.m. The CVS is located at 2325 Mass. Avenue. Anyone over the age of 14 is eligible for a flu shot; parental consent is needed for minors. The cost: \$12/shot except for senior citizens over age 65 with Medicare coverage from Medicare, Horizon or First Seniority. Please bring your insurance card with you so that we can bill

these insurers.

You will be asked to complete a consent form prior to receiving the shot. This includes questions about your current state of health (especially a head cold or respiratory tract infection), any known allergy to eggs or feathers, any allergy to thimerosal (a preservative in contact lens solution), and previous severe reaction to flu vaccine.

If you have any questions or need additional information, contact Joan Jerome-Conne at 781-643-6090 x273.

Affordability plan gets a percentage

BY LES G. MASTERSON
STAFF WRITER

As part of a larger plan to bring more affordable housing to town, a zoning bylaw amendment is headed to Town Meeting.

Housing Director Laura Wiener told the Redevelopment Board Monday that the proposal includes the provision for builders of six units and more, who would have to set aside 15 percent of a development for affordable housing.

Planning and Community Development Director Alan McClennen said Tuesday that the 15 percent figure was agreed upon after reviewing other communities and what seemed appropriate for Arlington. Affordable housing advocates banded about figures from 10 to 25 percent.

"In part, it was our gut reaction with what will work in Arlington," he said.

The affordable housing requirement would be at the 80 percent median income, roughly \$50,000 for a family of four. In addition, those eligible for affordable units will have to pay no more than 30 percent of their income.

Instead of setting aside units, developers would also be able to make a cash payment. But Wiener

thinks developers would be more apt to build affordable units than pay money to an affordable housing fund.

In addition, the town would offer the developer a parking requirement reduction of 80 percent.

When asked what kind of effect the proposal would have on affordable housing, Wiener said she did not know, but estimated a small number of units.

Planning and Community Development Director Alan McClennen agreed.

"We're looking at a number of things that can create permanent affordable units in town," he said. "We're not going to build our way to 10 percent [of Arlington being affordable]. It's not going to happen."

McClennen predicted that the proposal at 30 Water St. will be the first project facing the new bylaw. The project, at the former fruit packing plant, calls for 40 units, including six affordable spots. The location had been picked by Town Meeting as a spot for potential affordable housing, but until recently it appeared the voting body's dream would never be realized.

Nevertheless, member Nora Mann said, once builders see the first affordable project approved,

Resident donates \$25,000 to emergency housing fund

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

As the economy turns and everyone begins to hunker down and rein in their spending, someone in Arlington decided to spend a little more. Well, a lot more, actually.

Director of Housing Laura Wiener reported to the Board of Selectman Monday night that a female resident of Arlington, who administers a charitable foundation, donated \$25,000 to the emergency housing fund she has set up.

The woman requested anonymity, Wiener said.

Wiener was already intending to report good news: since she started the Arlington Fund to prevent Homelessness in December, more than \$9,400 in contributions had poured in from 140 individual donors.

"I am so pleased and gratified to see confirmed the generous spirit of Arlington's residents,"

said Wiener, in a letter to the board.

Selectman Diane Mahon touted the program as vital to help people, who "haven't fallen off the cliff yet, but are dangling over the edge."

The program is geared toward one-time emergency assistance to people who can't make a rent payment or are otherwise at risk of homelessness. A review board, established to make funding decisions, will include Patsy Kraemer, director of Human Services, and an undetermined member of the clergy.

The maximum assistance per family is \$2,700 per year.

Contributions or Requests for Assistance can be made to: Housing Corporation of Arlington

c/o Housing Office
Town of Arlington
20 Academy Street
Arlington, MA 02476

others will follow suit.

"The initial running of the numbers won't look as scary because they will see that it has been done before," she said.

With the first part of a larger affordable housing drive headed

to Town Meeting, McClennen said future affordable housing installments have not been decided.

"This will be the zoning part of affordable housing and we will analyze other approaches," he said.

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GOP meeting

The Arlington Republican Town Committee will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, Jan. 18 at the Arlington Safety Center, Mystic Street. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The focus of the meeting will be on business matters and upcoming events for 2001. The Committee wishes President-Elect George W. Bush the best for his up-coming Inauguration and subsequent tenure of office as President.

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Program reminds police about hate crimes

BY LES G. MASTERTON
STAFF WRITER

As part of a statewide effort, Arlington police officers now carry a laminated Hate Crimes Response Card, which contains strategies for effectively responding to hate crimes.

Developed by the Anti-Defamation League, the cards are geared to remind officers that "citizens never forget their experience with police officers," according to the card. Co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the Governor's Task Force on Hate Crimes, and the Executive Office of Public Safety, the cards have been distributed to more than 16,000 police officers throughout the commonwealth.

After hearing about the program through the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, Arlington Police Department Director Fred Ryan submitted the town for the program. Though Ryan said he feels the department handles hate crimes "sensitively," the cards will reinforce officers' knowledge.

"Like any service-related industry, there is always room for improvement," said Ryan. "It's a refresher for Arlington officers to sensitively investigate and handle crimes."

Arlington's top cop added that hate crime response is not taught at the Police Academy,

but is discussed during roll call training at the Community Safety Building. Ryan said the department also explores domestic violence and other issues during roll call.

According to the ADL cards, a hate crime is "a criminal act against a person or property in which the perpetrator chooses the victim because of the victim's real or perceived race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or gender."

"When hate crimes happen, they hurt whole communities," said ADL's New England Regional Executive Director Robert Leikind. "It is exciting to see so many police departments preparing their officers to respond effectively."

The cards explore factors to be considered by responding officers, including were there signs, symbols, or words used to indicate that it could be a hate crime; has the victim's group been subjected to prior hateful acts; is the victim one of a few from a particular group living in the neighborhood; and has the victim participated in public activities involving race, religion, sexual orientation, etc.

The card also warns police officers of specific dates, such as Adolf Hitler's birthday, Rosh Hashanah, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day, when hate crimes are more likely to occur.

The card also offers strategies for getting the full story. Hate crime victims may be sensitive to talking because of cultural pressures or embarrassment, the card reminds officers.

Some argue that crimes should be investigated on the severity of the offense, not the victim's background. However, Ryan believes a victim's background could mean an offense is more than a crime against an individual.

"Any crime motivated by hate or hatred clearly rises above crimes not motivated by hate," he said. "This is not to minimize the non-hate crime. It's just the sheer fact that a person is motivated by hate and no other reason that they not only assault an individual's rights, but the rights and dignity of a whole class or population."

Hate crimes are a rare occurrence in Arlington, but Ryan said the police take any incident, including racist or anti-Semitic graffiti, "very seriously."

"It's a symbol of hate in the eyes of a Jewish person who sees a swastika. It clearly adversely affects their quality of life in a community," said Ryan. He recalled a victim of anti-Semitic graffiti, who was so frightened that she left town with her child.

"It's a symbol of hate that triggers a whole lot of issues for victims," he said.

Mass Millions winner's identity kept in the dark

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Twenty-two million dollars is a lot of money. Enough to keep it a secret.

Representing the "Winner #1 Nominee Trust," Attorney Joseph A. Amoroso, Jr. arrived at the Massachusetts State Lottery headquarters in Braintree Friday to claim the \$22 million dollar Mass Millions ticket drawn at Boyle's Market in East Arlington last month.

"It's absolutely the right thing to do. It made good financial sense," said Amoroso, who was retained as trustee.

Amoroso would not divulge any further information on his client. He would not even say if he or she is an Arlington resident. The ticket was purchased

Friday, Dec. 22.

"More and more often, people are seeking financial advice preemptively," said Lisa McDonald, spokesperson for the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission. "When they sign that ticket, their name is a public document."

The Mass Millions jackpot was last hit on March 13, 2000 for \$1 million. The prize rolled 82 times before the winning drawing. The odds of striking it rich through the Mass Millions game are one in 13.9 million.

Owner Billy Smith of Boyle's Market said, "Oh well, that's all right. It's not a big deal" not knowing the winner's identity. He said he's still happy about the \$25,000 he received for selling the jackpot winner.

Healy decides against sixth term on board

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Michael Healy surprised just about everyone when he told the School Committee and the audience Tuesday that he wasn't seeking a sixth term as a School Committee member.

The fifteen-year veteran of the committee said, "It's time."

A stunned committee hurriedly sought words of admiration and thanks for Healy, who's the second longest-serving member behind Chairman William Carey.

"Mike, you were my mentor when I first came," said committee member Barbara Goodwin. "I feel like I'm being pushed out of

the nest."

During the committee's recess, Healy reflected on his time on the board.

"When I first ran in 1986, I didn't envision staying for a great deal of time — two years became three, three years became four, four became five. You know, the average School Committee member, I found out, lasts three years. But I thought just recently that it was time for new voices to be heard."

Healy said he won't be heard from this year. He has no plans to run for another town-wide office for now.

"I definitely don't rule it out," he said.

Asked if there were personal reasons for leaving, Healy said, "In a sense, I suppose that my three children have gone through (the school system). My daughter is a senior at Arlington High School. I wondered if that was part of it, but I really don't think so."

Healy doesn't have a definite plan yet of what he'll do next.

But one thing he will definitely be a party to is a good-natured roasting at the hands of his fellow members.

The gray-haired Carey started down that road when he joked to the nearly-bald Healy that when they both started, "My hair was black and you probably had some."

Field of Four

Four candidates now have tossed their proverbial hat in the School Committee ring.

There are two School Committee position up for grabs.

Longtime incumbent Carey, parent activist Suzanne Baratta Owayda, Minuteman School Committee member Paul Schlichtman and Crawford Street resident Teresa Bottoni have all taken out papers for the two slots available.

Resident Stuart Cleinman took out papers at the end of December, but has since dropped out of the race.

Thursday, Feb. 8 is the last day to take out blank nomination papers at the Town Clerk's office.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

Week of Jan. 15
Monday

No school.

Tuesday

BBQ meatballs, rice, biscuit, corn.

Wednesday

American chop suey, salad, bread stick.

Thursday

Caesar salad with grilled chicken, French bread.

Friday

Fresh fruit salad with cheese, croissant, yogurt.

Sandwiches, salad, pizza, pasta, stir fry veggies, grill and daily specials also offered daily. Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with all meals.

Tuesday

Chicken nuggets, puffs, green beans; cheeseburger, seasoned potatoes, juice bar; personal pan pizza, green beans, rice cake.

Wednesday

Roast turkey, cornbread stuffing, peas, cranberry sauce; hot dog, potato puffs, apple juice; rotini with meat sauce, French bread, salad.

Thursday

American chop suey, salad, breadstick;

chicken McSchool sandwich, puffs, salad; French bread pizza, oven baked fries, grape juice.

Friday

BLT sandwich, rice, cereal snack; calzone, rice, veggie sticks and dip; tossed salad with tuna and cheese, French bread, pears.

Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with every meal.

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LEARNING

SCHOOL NOTES

Upcoming at Ottoson

• Thursday, Jan. 18: sixth-grade parent discussion group with guidance counselor Eric Saum from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Ottoson cafeteria.

• Thursday, Jan. 25: Parent education evening, "Talking to Your Kids About Sex," with Dr. Sharon Maxwell from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Ottoson cafeteria.

Reminder

Arlington Public School have a holiday next Monday, Jan. 15, in observance of the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr., the civil-rights leader slain in 1968.

Book club

A children's literature book club for (K-5) parents and teachers is scheduled to continue from 7 to 8:30 p.m. today, Thursday, Jan. 11, at the Brackett School auditorium.

Participants are reading Caldecott, Newbery, classic, best sellers and multicultural selections. The first of the six sessions was Dec. 5. Appropriate selections and discussion questions will be provided for the primary (K-2) and intermediate levels (3-5).

Other sessions will be held Feb. 12, Peirce School Library; March 7, Fox Library; April 5, Stratton School Auditorium; and May 3, Robbins Library.

The aim is to read and enjoy some of the best children's literature.

If you want to be part of the book club, but didn't attend the opening session, sign up by calling the Robbins Children's Library at 316-3234.

Co-sponsored by Title I, the Robbins Library Russell Fund, the Arlington Public Schools' Library-Media Department and Partners in Education.

Concert CD a hit

The Brackett newsletter reports that 221 copies of the Holiday Concert CD have been sold, which raised \$1,890 after expenses.

The newsletter thanks those who made it a successful fundraiser.

Additional CD orders will still be accepted. Leave your order and payment in Gina Esile-Sylva's or Debra Thoresen's mail slots in the main office.

The price is \$10, payable to Brackett PTO, and the order form is till downloadable on the Web site at http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/brackett/cd_order_form.pdf.

You may e-mail Tom Thoresen (tom@sirius-software.com) or Jack Howard (jhoward@fas.harvard.edu) with order requests. Allow three or four days for orders to be filled.

Brackett Web site returns

Recent problems with the Brackett network server have been resolved, and the Brackett site is back. The address is <http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/brackett/index.html>. Recent revisions include:

• There is now a small gallery of images, which we hope to build on, at <http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/brackett/slideshow/index.htm>. Note that the present public-school policy prevents posting of clear photographs of students or their full names, to protect privacy.

• The January calendar page is up-to-date.

• The monthly lunch menu is linked on the "More Pages" page, as a viewable or downloadable PDF file.

• A "Classrooms" link is included in the navigation bar, so that teachers may create and link Web pages for their classrooms.

Also at Brackett:

• Mrs. Pope's class and Ms. D'Agostino's class thanks all who purchased spoons and made contributions to Project Bread. The effort collected \$166 to help feed hungry people.

• The academic enrichment committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 7:30 p.m. at Ann Wynne's house, 115 Robbins Road. Members will discuss plans for the science room and the greenhouse. Information: Andrea Gwosdow (646-4251) andrea@gwosdow.com or Meg Lim (641-2727) limmeg@aol.com.

Volunteer positions
Two parent volunteers are needed for the Stratton playground Monday mornings from 7:45 to 8:05 a.m. Also needed is a volunteer for a short period after school at Brackett.

Stratton barbecue

The Stratton PTO invites Stratton families to make plans now to celebrate Valentines Day at the adults-only Country Sweetheart Dance and barbecue on Saturday, Feb. 10, at Town Hall.

Get together with old and new friends for an old-fashioned good time. Organize a table for eight to 10 people or come on your own. The award-winning Robin Right Band will provide entertainment, while you chow down on barbecue from Redbones.

There will be a cash bar, lots of raffles, prizes and surprises. All proceeds from this fundraising event will support Stratton's education and enrichment programs. Tickets are \$35 per person and are on sale now.

For tickets or more information, call Laura Morrisette (646-0337).

Also at Stratton:

• The Coats for Kids program enters its final week at Stratton. If holiday gifts have left your family with unused or outgrown coats in children's and adult sizes, consider dropping them off in the box at the school office by Jan. 15. The coats will be brought to Anton's Cleaners for cleaning and then will be taken to the Salvation Army for distribution to Massachusetts residents in need. Questions? Call Kim O'Leary (646-6134).

• Jan. 26, family dance from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

• Feb. 7, PTO meeting at 6:45 p.m. in the auditorium.

AHS PC lab volunteer

Every Monday and Wednesday afternoon from 2:30 to 4 p.m., a community volunteer will be available in the Arlington High School computer lab to assist students with their academic subjects as well as with computer projects.

Joseph Glendenning has an extensive background in writing, mathematics and history. He is eager to help and is expected to be a valuable resource for AHS students.

Upcoming at AHS:

• Wednesday, Jan. 17, Grade 8, Parent/Student Orientation, 7 p.m., specific AHS location not listed.

Peirce story, craft hour

The Peirce PTO will sponsor a winter story and craft hour on Thursday, Jan. 18, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the school auditorium.

While this event is designed for children in grades K-3, older and younger siblings are welcome to join.

The PTO will also provide children an afternoon snack.

Information: 316-3637.

Bishop orientation

Bishop School incoming kindergarten parent orientation: Thursday, Feb. 1 from 7 to 8:30 p.m., for parents only.

Kindergarten registration at Bishop is set for March 8, for parents and children. It will involve a short visit to the classrooms.

The date and time for the story time with Bishop Principal Steve Carme, for parents and children, is to be announced.

Dallin library seeks books

The Dallin Library would love to receive good books that your family no longer reads. Many books are read only once at home, but library books are read again and again.

The library prefers books that are not part of a series, such as Rugrats or Scooby Doo, but if you aren't sure, library staff will decide what's suitable.

Hardbacks are more durable than paperbacks, but the staff is happy to receive all books.

Any books the staff decides not to circulate will be donated to a book sale or charity, not thrown away.

Dallin Daisy leaders needed

At least five kindergarten girls have recently expressed interest in joining the Daisy Girl Scouts at Dallin, but the troop is full.

Leaders seek two adults willing to lead another small troop. If you are interested in becoming a leader, or if you have a kindergarten girl who is interested in joining, call Cathie (641-1534).

Chamber Orchestra busy

The Arlington Elementary Chamber Orchestra has performed at the State House, the Bishop School opening concert,



Members of the Brackett/Hardy Select Chorus and Select Elementary Chamber Orchestra recently performed at the State House. With the orchestra, first row, from left, Performing Arts Director Pasquale Tassone, Orchestra Director Debra Thoresen, state Sen. Robert Havern, state Rep. Anne Paulsen, and Chorus Director Gina Esile-Sylva.

Seasons Four in Lexington and at the Brackett/Hardy holiday concert.

A CD of the Brackett/Hardy concert, featuring several selections played by the Chamber Orchestra, is available for \$10. Profits benefit the music department. For information, call 316-3700.

Parent forums resume

Parent Education Forums, 2000-2001, continue in January with a workshop titled "Parenting the Adolescent: The Resilient Adolescent." Details will be announced.

These programs are sponsored and funded by the Arlington public schools' health education, family & consumer science departments, Title I, guidance and counseling services, the Robbins Library Russell Fund, the Board of Youth Services, the Parent Involvement Project, school PTOs and The Human Rights Commission.

To see all forums, go to <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/kforums.htm>.

Community ed

Arlington Community Education's winter session is scheduled to begin Tuesday, Jan. 23, at Arlington High School, 869 Mass. Ave. Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning at 7.

There are no age limits, and all Arlington residents as well as non-residents are welcome.

If you are an Arlington resident and did not receive your copy of the brochure, you may pick one up at the Fox or Robbins Libraries. You may call 316-3568 to request a brochure in the New Year. Fees range from \$15 to \$185 per course.

Registration will be accepted by mail, walk-in, or by phone if using Visa or MasterCard.

Questions? Call Molly Leong at

(781) 316-3568.

Information about Arlington Community Education is on the town Web site at <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/schools/commed.htm>.


The following is a list of the courses being offered this session (listed by course, time & dates and course cost):

ABCD's of Effective Presentations, Tuesday, 7-9:30 3/13, 1 wk., \$30;
Astrology, Look to the Stars, Thursday, 7-9:21/2, 2/8, 2 wks., \$45;
Ballroom Dancing, Thursday, 8:30 -10 1/25, 10 wks., \$145/couple;
Ballroom Dancing 2, Thursday, 7-8:30 1/25-10 wks., \$145/couple;
Calligraphy, Tuesday, 7-9 1/23-3/20, 8 wks., \$88;
Colonial Life: 1775, Tuesday, 7-9, 2/6, 13, 27, 3 wks., \$48;
Commonwealth Dog Basic Training, Tuesday, 7-8, 1/23-3/13 7 wks., \$126;
Commonwealth Dog Training Advanced, Tuesday, 8-9, 1/23-3/13, 7 wks., \$126;
Community CPR, Thursday, 6-10 2/18 6-10, 2 wks., \$40;
Driver's Education, Monday, M - F, 3/5-3/23 or 4/2-4/27, \$80;
Enrich Your Life Through Writing, Tuesday, 7-9, 2/27, 3/6, 2 wks., \$45;
ESL: intermediate, Tuesday, 7-9, 1/23 4/10, 10 wks., \$95;
Estate Planning: Completing the Circle, Tuesday, 6:30-8:30, 2/6, 1 wk., \$30;
Excel for Beginners, Tuesday, 7-9, 9/26 10/24, 5 wks., \$110;
Exploring New Dimensions, Thursday, 7-9, 3/1, 18, 15, 3 wks., \$38;
Fears and Phobias, Tuesday, 7-8:30, 2/6, 13, 2 wks., \$21;
First Aid Basics, Thursday, 6-10, 2/15, \$40;
French - Brackett School, Wednesday, 2:30-3:30, 1/25 12 wks., \$161/\$146;
French - Stratton School, Wednesday, 2:45-3:45, 1/24 12 wks., \$161/\$146;
French - Thompson School, Tuesday, 2:45-3:45, 1/24, 12 wks., \$161/\$146;
Guatemalan Cooking, Tuesday, 7-9, 3/6, 1 wk., \$15;
Hand Drumming for Beginners, Thursday, 7-8:30 1/25-3/2, 28 wks., \$121;
Healing & Preventing Repetitive Stress Injuries, Tuesday, 7-9, 4/3 1 wk., \$25;
How Much Will You Pay For College, Thursday, 7-9, 10/5, 1 wk., \$30;
How to Add Volumes to Your Vocabulary, Tuesday, 7-9:30, 4/3, 1 wk., \$30;
How to Protect Your Life Savings, Tuesday, 7-9, 3/6, 1 wk., \$30;
Introduction to Computers I, Thursday, 7-9, 1/25, 10 wks., \$150;
Investing With a Purpose: What Every Woman Should, Tuesday, 6:30-8:30, 1/30, 1 wk., \$30;
Japanese at Peirce School, Wednesday,

2:45-3:45, 9/30, 10 wks., \$161/\$146;
Lower The Cost Of College, Thursday, 7-9, 1/25, 1 wk., \$30;
Mad Science - Dallin - Gr. 1-3, Tuesday, 2:45-3:45, 1/23, 8 wks., \$88;
Mad Science - Peirce Gr. 1-3, Thursday, 2:45-3:45 1/23, 8 wks., \$88;
Madeleine's One Nighters, Tuesday, 7-9, 2/6, 3/6, 2/27, 4/3, \$15 ea.;
Medicaid Annuities, Thursday, 7-9, 3/15, 1 wk., \$45;
Meditation/Stress Release, Thursday, 7-9, 2/15, 1 wk., \$25;
Microsoft Word Part I, Tuesday, 7-9, 1/23, 10 wks., \$150;
Paper Basket Weaving, Tuesday, 7-9, 2/6, 13, 27 & 3/6, 4 wks., \$65;
PSAT /SAT, Tuesday & Thursday, 6:30-9:30, 12 wks., \$759/\$683;
PowerPoint, Tuesday, 2/6, 7-9, 1 wk., \$35;
Real Estate First-Time Homebuyers, Tuesday, 7-9, 3/27, 4/3, 2 wks., \$57;
Sewing, Tuesday, 7-9:30, 10 wks., \$90;
Sharpening Your Conversation & Listening Skills, Tuesday, 7-9:30, 3/27, 1 wk., \$33;
Shotokan Karate, Tuesday, 7-8:30, 2/6-3/27, 6 wks., \$90;
Spanish I, Tuesday, 7-9, 1/23, 10 wks., \$105;
Spanish II, Thursday, 7-9, 1/25, 10 wks., \$105;
Spanish - Brackett School, Thursday, 2:30-3:30, 1/27, 12 wks., \$146/\$146;
Spanish - Hardy School @ Brackett, Tuesday, 2:45-3:45, 1/23, 12 wks., \$161 or \$146;
Surfing the Web, Tuesday, 7-9, 2/27, 3/6, 3/13, 3 wks., \$55;
Surfing the Web, Tuesday, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 3 wks., \$85;
Taking Control of Your Financial Future, Thursday, 7-9, 3/15, 1 wk., \$30;
Transitioning to Assisted Living? Thursday, 7-10, 3/8, 1 wk., \$30; and
Web Page Design, Tuesday, 7-9, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10 (3 weeks), \$85.


School news, events

Tell the public the news about your public school by telling Bob Sprague, communication specialist for Arlington public schools. E-mail school-related items to bsprague1@rcn.com or call 641-4490 by 10:30 a.m. any Monday for publication in The Advocate the following Thursday. He also posts school information on the town's Web site, Arlington Online, at: <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/> and lists upcoming school events at the site's online calendar.




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E-Mail: info@countrysidebiblechapel.org
Web Address: www.countrysidebiblechapel.org

SWEET MUSIC



The Arlington High School Madrigal Singers recently performed for the Arrowstreet Corporation at the Children's Museum in Boston.

Brackett School hosts 2nd Family Math, Science Night

Students, teachers, and parents gathered at the Brackett School Thursday, Dec. 7 for a repeat of last year's popular Family Math and Science night.

The event was organized by the Academic Enrichment Committee (AEC) of the combined Hardy and Brackett School PTOs. The AEC's primary goal is to assist teachers and enrich the elementary curriculum, with a special emphasis on promoting science education. The goal of Math and Science Night was to get families involved in science activities together and show both kids and parents how much fun science can be.

The emphasis this year was again on hands-on activities, where everyone could "Make mistakes, take chances and get messy!" to quote Magic School Bus science teacher Ms. Frizzle. The "get messy" part was much in evidence with the Science of Slime in the third floor greenhouse. Kids explored a variety of goos, slimes and glops, all made from common household materials. A water table with materials to illustrate floating and sinking and a display of composting worms emphasized the fact that science isn't always neat and tidy.

John Pickle and Ira Ekhaus presided over a set of six activities illustrating basic principles of air pressure.

"The goal of the activities was for kids to play with various aspects of air pressure that built on themselves, culminating in experimenting with a water barometer, which they could build at home with simple materials," said Pickle, a research meteorologist with Atmospheric and Environmental Research, Inc.

Students could take home a handout of instructions with pictures showing them how to build and operate their own barometer.

Last year's Family Science Night was the first at Brackett School, and organizers had to

build and organize everything from scratch, leaving little energy for further efforts throughout the year. A lot of the work done last year paid off, enabling organizers to build on that foundation.

Popular activities that made a repeat performance this year included investigating acidity and alkalinity (this time without the aroma of boiled cabbage), exploring balance and center of gravity with mobiles and balancing structures, and separating colors with chromatography.

Some of the new activities, such as floating and sinking, building structures, and tangrams and dodecahedrons, and some math activities, built on work done for last year's Family Math and Science Day at the Boys and Girls Club or the Stratton school science night.

Having put less energy into science night leaves the AEC with more energy available for future projects.

"I see us using the energy for putting displays together in the science room and making it a buzzing active room anytime of the day, as well as getting the greenhouse together and whatever else people have the energy for," said Andrea Gwosdow.

The AEC plans to explore these and other ideas at their next meeting.

This comment from Jack Howard, event organizer and parent, sums up the evening.

"My favorite quote of the night was when my daughter Emma, a kindergartner, and Micah Baum, one of her classmates, were leaving the school at the end of the night. Micah excitedly exclaimed, 'Hey, Emma, wasn't this a fun night?' And she responded with an enthusiastic 'Yeah!' Unembellished sentiment, straight from the heart, and it made the whole thing worthwhile right there. Both Micah and Emma later did a few further investigations into chromatography at home."

ON CAMPUS

Eric Michael Conti of Arlington, graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison with a degree in educational administration, doctor of philosophy, in the summer of 2000.

Daniel Ferguson-Maltzman of Arlington made the Dean's List for the fall semester

of his sophomore year at Becker College in Leicester. His overall GPA is 4.0 and he is a human service major.

The following student at Catholic Memorial has been named to the Honor Roll for the first marking period: Grade 9 — Second Honors: Jaad Hassoun.

ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

First Honors Class of 2001

Sarah Margaret Baldwin, James Aguilar Battaglia, Erin Marie Britt, Lauren Elaine Carmichael, Heather Michelle Devito, Hannah Rachel Feldman, Maxwell Henry Felsner, Eileen Marie Hassett, Heather Marie Jones, Andrew Joseph Magliozzi, Armen Nerces Nerecessian, Ryan Michael O'Leary, Sara Maureen Peach, Matthew Stephen Pooley, Tracey Anne Samko, Geoffrey James Scannell, William Koonwei Wong.

Class of 2002

Michael James Dolan, Diana Hamilton Jeffrey, Andrew Robert Leone, Ariel Lown Lewiton, Marie Therese Masse, Anne Warren O'Connell, Eric James Palmer, Kathleen Anne Remsberg, Nicholas Ralph Sacca, Melanie Nelson Sard, Katharine Ann Schanda.

Class of 2003

Scilla Curran Bennett, Eric Alan Boggs, Rachel Sarah Carducci, Flavia Fernandes, Benjamin Rea Howell, Fanni Li, Julia Elizabeth Manoli, Matthew Duffy Reheig, Emily Elizabeth Rosowski, Kathryn Anne Rosowski, Elizabeth Colleen Scannell, Emily Michelle Taber, Catherine Mary Willemine.

Class of 2004

Courtney Margaret Bowman, Angela Ijane Chung, Lisa Ericson Corkum, Sara Rose Freedman, Jessica June Ghofrant, Jamie Lynn Gunnerson, Kim Ashley Hazeltine, Robin Alethea Levinson, Rachel Ann Montana, Anna Mary Payne-Tobin, Andrew John Peach, Justine Meier Sheffler, Serena Marie Steele, Michael Morris Weinstein, Kelly Ann Yee.

Second Honors Class of 2001

Marc John Albano, Donna Katherine Allen, Elizabeth Joyce Arnold, Jessica Francis Arrondel, Marco Felipe Asencio, Andrew John Avault, Nanor Hagaop Barsoumian, Alicia Rose Blanciforti, Jennie Rebecca Blodgett, Elizabeth Mary Brennan, Karen Elizabeth Brennan, Daniel James Buckley, Kevin Paul Burns, Kelly Sullivan Byrne, Christine Marie Callahan, Laurel Hope Carnes, Courtney Marie Carroll, William Samuel Carroll, Brad Daniel Chella, Chad Louis Chella, Jennifer Lee Chin, Christina Marie Cirame, William Christopher Copithorne, Leslie Jane Curren, Kate Ann Curtis, Elio Gutano Dencso, Allison Ann Dickinson, Christina Grace Dwyer, William Walter Eckhardt, Carol Ann Everett, Liam Wright Ezekiel, Tim Frese, Jacob Rome George, Lisa Carmela Giannone, Adianez Gonzalez, Elisa Harper Hamilton, Jennifer Noelle Healy, William James Hinde, Benjamin Gar Ohn Ho, David Byrne Hurley,

Maura Kathryn Hurley, Noah David Hurley-Abelew, Elizabeth Anne James, Daniel Stuart Jones, Francis John Judd, Jeffrey David Kerble, Deirdre Nimah Kiely, Min Jung Kim, Yujin Kim, Peter Fred Konz, Perrin Mieke Laplante, Eileen Yu Yi Leung, Ian Lewis, Sarah Ketchen Lipson.

Also, Joseph Patrick Lordan, Stephen Frank Loidas, Michelle Teresa Ludka, Joves Yung-Hsiang Luo, Patrick Shamus Mackey, Christopher John Mahoney, David Malfroy-Camine, Patrick Paul Martel, Joseph Stephen McCaig, Nora Phelps McElroy, Anthea Simone Medyn, Katie Ann Moskaluk, Andrea Kathleen Murphy, Laurel Ann Murphy, Patrick Charles Murphy, Diana Nemirovsky, Michelle Ann Nowlan, Sunyoung Oh, Darshan Ashvin Patel, Roger S. Perry Jr., Jonathan Adam Rainford, Elyse M. Reardon, Matthew Robert Remeika, Peter John Robichaud, Stephen Michael Rubbicko, Carolyn Joan Ryan, David John Santino, Felix Andreas Schmidt, Rani Bryce Scott, George Andrew Sherbovich, Christopher Joseph Sherburne, Elisabeth Barrett Sieberg, Caitlin Marie Silva, Elizabeth Victoria Stone, Jennifer Ann Sullivan, Gina Maria Tassone, Brendan Duffy Timmins, Gary Snow Vrotsos, Thomas Michael Walsh, Jill Kirsten Weinstein, Kyle David Wilkins, William Woodrow Wisdom, Justin Deryl Witham, Cindy Wu, Julia Kathryn Wyllie, Mingxi Yang, Olivia Santo Zurek.

Second Honors Class of 2002

Lindsay Nicole Adams, Megan Kathleen Alderson, Stephen Brent Annear, Jennifer Noel Armstrong, Michael Sean Barbosa, Margaret Mary Bartlett, Sayantani Bhattacharya, Mark Daniel Bittelari, Ariel Marren Bohn, Kerri Rita Brennan, Christopher Martin Britt, Matthew Balderston Brooke, Richard Anthony Brutti, Kristin Bennett Caffelle, Michael Allen Capasso, Christopher Kerins Carmody, Gillian Lisanne Carter, Mark Anthony Cipolle, Matthew Seth Janowei Cleinman, Natalia Isbelda Cornejo, Colleen Elizabeth Cronin, Maria Linda Defabritiis, Michael James Demas, Mary Margaret Divito, Margaret Jean Doherty, Brian Thomas Donnelly, Elizabeth Mary Drake, Kelly Fairbank-Haynes, Lauren Michelle Feinberg, Hannah Dyer Frigand, Marisa Akosua Galeota, Michelle Cristine Gaspar, Maya Lorraine Gomes, David Gregory Goshgarian, Stephen Matthew Grey, Stephanie Elizabeth Hall, Kathryn Michelle Howard, Eleanor Sanford Hyde, Benjamin Edgar Stone Jaffe, Ashley Joujou, Kimberly Baird Kenney, Joanna Maria Koufos, Richard Ali Kurdi, Andrew Fabian Laskey, Andreas Thomas

Leibundgut, Cindy Yu Ting Leung, Christina Lynne Lucente, Kaitlin Rebecca Maguire, James Robert Maldonig, Erin Marie Maloney, Lauren Lee Maranian, Ryan James Martin, Daniela Marie Mauro, Katherine Mary McCall.

Also, Lauren Mary McClosky, Alexander Lodge McInnes, Kathryn Rose McNamara, Michelle Pamela Megna, Lisa Maria Megson, Nicole Frances Messuri, Karen Almy Minns, Marlana Rose Mueller, Michelle Leah Mulcahy, Melissa Ann Murray, Samuel Lewis O'Hara, Allison Kelly Percival, Anita Ani Postaljian, Elizabeth Jane Preval, Keith Wallace Raymond, Annie Walsh Regan, Alexa Katherine Rempis, Daniel Gerhard Rueters-Ward, Michael Anthony Ruggieri, Nicole Elizabeth Russell, Elizabeth Susan Sands, Lucy Irene Sherburne, Ali Hussain Siam, Jesse Max Stamell, Cheryl Lynne Stanton, Satoru Tagawa, Jeremy Lyon Taylor, Kate Lynn Marie Tenney, Ellen Margaret Whittle, Matthew Jared Wilstein, Noah Avram Winkeller, Julia Anne Young, Suzanna Zaganjori.

Class of 2003

Asma Amena, Andrew Robert Baker, Nolan Thomas Boike, Emily Chapnick Brambilla, Michael Simon Burakoff, Jose Mauricio Calderon, Janelle Ann Carco, Melissa Chiu Chen, Mara Jade Coleman, Kendra Ann Conlon, Susanne Dao, Victoria Rose Devins, Elena Marie Decenso, Amy Beth Dimasi Brendan Michael Dowdle, Alexandra Erin Early, Michela Theresa Fahey, Allison Lee Feigen, Matthew David Fitzgerald, Brendan Dolan Flynn, Daniel Alexander Forman, Jason Manuel Furtado, Emily Kasae Galen, Patrick Brian Gannon, Sean Patrick Garballey, Rocco Aldo Giannone, Anna Katherine Goldmuntz, Kristen Michelle Gridley, Michael Thomas Grove, Ruth Marcela Guerrero, Ryan Guy Harnish, Elizabeth Celia House, Lauren Elizabeth Ingegneri, Sarah Louise Kalauskas, Megan E. Keating, Jennifer Ann Kelly, Hyun Kyoung Kim, Lisa Kim, Stephanie Amalia Konz, Danielle Marie Lanata, Martina Anne Langdon, Matthew Axelrod Lebrich, Rebecca Skye Lijek, Susanna Day Locke, Benjamin Joseph Logue, Katherine Irene MacKenzie, Meredith Jill Madden, Jill Marie Maguire, Sylvain Malfroy-Camine, Elise Jean Mansfield, Kelly Jane Martin, Teela Marie Morais, Christina Esther Morris, Elizabeth Borland Morrison.

Also, Whitney Bard Morrison, Donald William Murphy, Jennifer Ann Murphy, Armine Diana Nalbandian, Nicholas Anthony Numan, Shaham Christian Nerecessian, Melissa W. Ng, Jennifer Lynn O'Connell, Kristen Marie O'Connell, Sarah Elizabeth Olejarz,

Steven Elijah Osborn Jr., Vishal Patil, Michael David Phillips, Amanda Marie Popoloski, Alison Leigh Powers, Jeffrey Marcus Preval, Michael Lewis Redbord, Julie Christina Reeves, Elizabeth Mary Rielly, Kelly Ann Rivers, Paul Robert Rosie, Gregory James Santino, Carmeet Schatz, Vered Schreiber, Tiffany Joyce Settles, McKane Elizabeth Sharf, Johna Eleanor Sullivan, Joanna Noor Sullivan, Meredith Ann Taylor, Stephanie Antonia L. Taylor, James Christopher Tirone, Allison Jaye Tocci, Ashley Elizabeth Turner, Mariya Angela Voloshina, Katherine Frances Ward, Anne Marcia Woodbury.

Class of 2004

Eleanor Anne Avault, Mary Flordelys Avila, Mark Corbett Aylward, Jacob Charles Barry, Kate Marie Bartlett, Noah Henry Becker, Laura Shaw Carroll, Nicole Emmanuelle Charriere, Roger Chen, Jonathan Wayne Copithorne, Andrew Francis Costello, Amy Michele Curran, John Francis Devito, Michael Robert Dugan, Debora Saraiva Fernandes, Amy Lynn Gall, Miranda Gerzon, Allison Marie Greco, Ashley Marie Gustafson, Kayla Marie Halstead, Michaela Hejzlar, Manuelle Agiela Igel, Elina Nicole Khachryan, Ricky Hon-Fai Kwan, Molly Amanda Kyle, Cory Nicholas Leonard, Dominique Chong Lieu, Phillip Alexander Lobo, Shawn Michael Mahady, David Michael Mahoney, Lauren Elizabeth Mansfield, Christine Cummings Martynuk, Ian Bruce Mayer, Christina Elizabeth McDermott, Corey Edna McManus, Ryan William McTighe, Anna Mae Meador, Julie Ann Meadows, Beth Mary Millian, Todd McLaren Minns, Zachary Adam Nathanson, Anna Linnea Noonan, Eric Trilling O'Malley, Jessica Leigh O'Quinn, Sara Elizabeth O'Quinn, Nika Ivanna Orlovsky, Mark Philip Pereira, Zachary Taylor Pilcher, Jana Eleanor Pollack, Jonathan William Ponte, Patricia Maureen Quinn, Julia Anne Radnofsky, Michael Andrew Robichaud, Desiree Patricia Rose.

Also, Margaret Fuller Rubio-Keefer, Jenna Joanne Rufo, Walter Edwin Russell, Christopher Gregory Sacca, Jonathan Ryan Sacca, Daniel Abram Salas, Kristin Marguerite Samko, Nicole Christina Scotti, Caleb Gray Sherrod, Rebecca Lynne Smith, Brian Douglas Spencer, Robert Howard Stone, Brittany Leigh Suprenard, Kathleen Mary Taglieri, Stephen James Tahmouh, David Alan Tassone, Callie Marie Tegan, Daniel Peter Thompson, Laura Jane Tiedeman-Mau, Craig Cameron Van Keuren, Jennifer Mildred Webb, Hannah Faith Wilson, Ben (Pang-Hsien) Wu, Cassandra Elizabeth Zufante.

DAISYS EARN PATCH

Daisy Troop #1028 of The Dallin School earned their "Respecting Authority" patch with the help of Arlington Police Officers David McKenna and Henry Poole. The officers taught the girls about what a policeman's job is, what their uniform and equipment stand for, and talked about ways to stay safe. After the presentation, the officers handed out "Junior Police" badges and informative coloring books in appreciation for the girls' interest, and stood for this picture in the classroom of June Byrne. Standing from left to right, front row, Daisys Elisabeth Rundell, Sarah Vujsic, Jillian Paladino, Tessa McManus, Kayla MacDonald, Sarah Cassidy, Megan Felder, Cassandra Crowley, Lauren Connolly, Francesca Felder, Rebecca Hassler, and Gabriela Jenkins. In the rear are Safety Officer David McKenna and Officer Henry Poole. Missing from the picture are Daisys MaryKate Brady and Lauren Geldart. Daisy Troop #1028 leaders are Karen Connolly, Nancy MacDonald and Carla Felder.



Fillings that match tooth color

Teeth with decay on visible surfaces, as well as discolored, unattractive, and chipped teeth can all be dealt with through the various cosmetic procedures available today, such as composite or "white fillings." The composite restorations offer many advantages over the now practically obsolete silver fillings: While traditional amalgam (silver) filling is darker and grayer than your natural tooth color, the composite (or "white filling") can be made to look like your own teeth as if there was no filling on the tooth. Also the many shades and the initial dough consistency of the white filling allows the dentist not only to match color but also add shape and carefully sculpt the missing anatomy back in to the filling while rebuilding the decayed part back up to look like a tooth. This is because the composite material hardens with application of a special light whereas silver sets almost immediately and

Better Dental Health

by Dr. Sarah Hart



offers no sculpting time. Aside from the cosmetic advantage, there is also no concern with white fillings about leakage of mercury as there would be with silver fillings given that metal tarnishes over time.

While white fillings are more costly than silver fillings, the advantages both esthetically and health-wise have made silver fillings a thing of the past. At Hart Dental, our exceptionally competent and experienced dentists strive not only to restore function and health back in to teeth but also esthetics to afford a confident smile.

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COMMENT



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EDITORIAL

Election guidelines

With the March 31 Town Election two months away and the deadline for candidates to take out papers four weeks away, we felt this was the proper time to lay out the ground rules for the upcoming election.

The *Advocate* will regularly run the guidelines until the election.

Candidate announcements: Candidates for townwide office have until March 5 to send in their candidacy announcement. The last issue we will run the announcement is March 8.

The announcement should be under 400 words and can include a submitted photo for publication. As with letters to the editor, we reserve the right to edit announcements for length and clarity.

Letters to the editor: Letters from candidates or supporters should be 400 words or less and must include the writer's name, address, and phone number for verification. Note: The *Advocate* only runs a person's name and title (where applicable), unless the writer is from out-of-town, at which time we will run the town or city of residence.

No letters will be published in the issue immediately prior to the election, unless, in the editor's judgment, they are necessary to respond to claims made against the candidate and are limited to that response. Readers are also welcome to submit letters (also with a limit of 400 words) on issues raised during the campaign.

Due to space limitations, The *Advocate* may not be able to run every letter we receive. At that point, we will run a representative sampling of letters.

The most reliable way to send letters is through e-mail. At that time, you are assured that we have received the letter if you receive a response from us. If you fax or mail a letter, it is best that you call editor Les Masterson at 674-7726 to make sure the letter has arrived.

Campaign notebook: Candidates can send campaign information that will be included into a campaign notebook. To be assured that items will go into that week's paper, we need candidates' and readers' political correspondence by noon on Monday of the that week.

Candidate endorsements: Editor Les Masterson will interview the candidates for Board of Selectmen and School Committee contested races and will write an endorsement editorial for the issue of March 29.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum is looking for volunteers to meet and greet guests at the Arlington Center locale, which is located in the historic Jefferson Cutter House. For more information, call 646-3553.

Volunteers are needed for the Arlington Council on Aging. Drive elders to their medical appointments, serve as a friendly companion visitor, phone isolated elders for some friendly conversation and more.

Call Lynne at the Arlington Council on Aging 316-3403 for information.

Arlington Children's Theater announces immediate openings for directors and assistant directors for their 2001-2002 season. Positions are a mix of compensated, volunteer, and semi-volunteer. The compensation level, as always, to be determined by experience as impacted by funding issues. Please forward resumes and requests for interviews to ACT. Please contact Arlington Children's Theater by mail at Arlington Children's Theater, P.O. Box 1076, Arlington, MA 02476, or by fax at 641-3769, or by phone at 646-8204.

Spend some time serving as a one-on-one tutor or a classroom assistant with K-5 students in a Boston public school. In order to succeed with the new standardized tests and curriculum standards, it is crucial that students get the extra help that they need to improve their literacy and math skills. Comprehensive training is provided.

Call Barbara Harris or Martha Redding, (617) 451-6145.

The Samaritans of Boston, a non-profit, non-denominational suicide prevention center, seeks volunteers (16 years and older) to help staff our telephone befriending services. Accepted applicants will be trained to provide non-judgmental listening and support to lonely, despairing, and suicidal individuals. Call (617) 536-2460 for information.

The Massachusetts Association for the Blind needs volunteers to help read a visually-impaired neighbor's mail. Two or three hours a week and a desire to help is all you need. The association will provide the training for a two or three hours a week session and a desire to help is all you need. Call (617) 972-9119.



DAVE GRANLUND © 2001 METROWEST DAILY NEWS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Candidate drops out of race

On Dec. 19, I took out papers fully expecting to run for a seat on the Arlington School Committee in the March 31 election.

Unfortunately, I am unable to continue and am dropping out of the race. This difficult decision is due to a recent family medical situation, along with work responsibilities, which will take up much of my time during the next few months.

I wish to thank those who encouraged me to run and everyone who signed my nomination papers. I still believe there are serious issues, such as the MCAS test, teacher testing, and academic services provided to all our students, including those with disabilities.

It is my hope that these issues are addressed during the campaign. I intend to continue my involvement with the community and believe that I can offer something to the School Committee. In that regard, I expect to run in a future election. I thank everyone for their support and urge everyone to follow the campaigns and vote in the March 31 election.

Stuart Cleinman

Responds to letters

I can remain silent no longer.

A consistent thread running through Harold Ramsey's letters has been the slanderous presumption that a member of what are known as minority groups cannot possibly be as qualified as members of the so called majority. I categorically reject this cornerstone of bigotry.

What the Arlington School Committee has done is very simple. We have pledged to take steps to attract more minority candidates into our hiring pool. This action is totally consistent with the changing demographics of this country, which will soon result in minorities collectively being in the majority. That is the entirety of the policy the School Committee adopted. There is no directive to hire preferentially and there is no permission to hire unqualified candidates; minority or otherwise.

Black, white, pink or blue, we owe it to our children to find and to hire the most qualified candidates. In a candidate pool, where minorities are represented in greater numbers than has been the case in the past, it follows that the most qualified candidate is more likely to be a member of a minority, though it is by no means a certainty.

After doing our best to keep minorities in their place for the past two or three hundred years, it's about time that we white Europeans exert a little effort to give them an opportunity to compete on their merits in numbers that are more representative of the general population. I won't bother to go into the reasons why a diverse staff will benefit our children, but I will say that they are educationally sound reasons that make a lot of sense.

And yes, Mr. Ramsey, some of those minority candidates may indeed be the best for the job, even right here in Arlington.

Martin Thrope
Arlington School Committee

Diversity benefits all

In the last 25 years, the Arlington Public Schools have hired qualified staff: to model male behavior at the elementary level; to

Residents opine on snowy, icy condition

Walking is treacherous

Many years ago, the town's public works department cleared the sidewalks of ice and snow with special plows. But then came the days of tax limitations and the service was discontinued. Instead, Town Meeting passed a bylaw requiring property owners and/or renters to clear their own sidewalks.

Generally, this has not worked well. Many sidewalks remain sheets of ice after our most recent storm. Last night, as my wife walked home from work, she could not hold footing on the sidewalk and ended up walking in the breakdown lane along Pleasant Street. She was nearly hit by a bus as a result.

Her visual survey of the east side of Pleasant Street showed that almost the entire length of sidewalk was solid ice with only the Cambridge Savings Bank and the condominium association at the end of our street having attempted to clear their sidewalks.

I asked her, "even the Jarvis House?" No, except for a small path directly to the door, the sidewalks were just as bad in front of the Jarvis House as anywhere else. Well, the Jarvis house is a town-owned building. In fact, the town uses it for offices. As it turns out, the town counsel, the town's paid attorney, has his office there. I wondered what would happen if he slipped on the ice and was injured; would the town then sue itself for damages? Surely, the town must set an example for the rest of residents and businesses if this by-law has a prayer of being observed.

This morning (Wednesday, Jan. 3), numerous parents drove their high school students to school, rather than allow them to walk, forming a long line of cars to drop them off, delaying everyone. Our streets are

already clogged with too much traffic. Not everyone can walk to their destinations, but by leaving our sidewalks this treacherous, we are denying ourselves one of the few alternatives to filling the roads with more cars.

For those without a car, even temporarily, such as the situation my wife was in last night, the alternatives are pretty frightening.

Glenn Koenig

Town needs to take action

Can the Town of Arlington do anything about the accumulations of snow and ice that stand for long periods on its public sidewalks? Recent storms have shown that the town does an excellent job of keeping its streets clear for automobiles, but has given little attention to the needs of those who for whatever reasons must walk or use wheelchairs.

Currently, pedestrians must choose between walking on icy sidewalks or competing with automotive traffic for space on the streets. Although some residents and merchants take pains to clear their walkways quickly after each storm, many are content to leave the piles of snow and ice on the pavement until they melt.

Whatever the town decides to do there are two exceptional circumstances that deserve special consideration. People who are unable to clear their sidewalks themselves because of age or infirmity should receive help from town employees.

On the other hand, those persons who clear only their driveways and dump the snow they accumulate on sidewalks should be heavily penalized.

Stanley F. Worris

increase female administrators at the secondary level; to increase the number of teachers that have special education, early childhood or computer experience; and to perform additional duties such as coaching or scheduling.

In my memory, the only other time "hiring the best" has been raised was over the hiring of female administrators.

An excellent system will have a diversity of teachers to model for our children and with a variety of teaching strengths to meet the needs of our students. Hiring and retaining the best certified teachers does require: good hiring and evaluating policies; an inclusive, welcoming and fair system; decent salaries and good working conditions; and advertising and networking widely. All of this takes time and work but the benefits of diversity benefit all our children.

Janice A. Bakey

A different view

Gloria J. Leitner's column ("Democrat Regroups, predicts next four years," The *Advocate*, Dec. 21) covers much of the liberal, Democratic philosophy, citing predictions she hopes come true. One can understand her disappointment, because the election was that close.

Though only time will prove Miss Leitner's hopes, I can project some metaphysical certainties, antithetical to hers, to wit: Americans are at long last rid of a president who is a perjurer, a liar, an adulterer, a menace to the unborn, and a man whose action meant the killing of thousands of civilians. He emasculated our military, impairing its fighting efficiency, seriously undermining its morale.

Also, we will no longer have to watch and wince as an American vice president pays homage to Al Sharpton or have to endure the agony of Jesse Jackson, providing "spiritual counsel" to a shameless president.

Political activism (i.e., abortion, the homosexual agenda, affirmative action), along with the poseurs who engender such policies will now be shoveled into the common grave of absurdity, whence they sprung.

True, the Democrats (aided by the media and academia) will continue to distort language (e.g., a pro-abortion politician is a "moderate"; a pro-life politician is an "extremist"), pursue their socialist policies (increased taxes/increased spending), and indulge in their interecine rhetoric of class and race conflict.

Miss Leitner and I agree on the facts. It is just a matter of perspective.

Ramon deRosas

The Arlington Advocate

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It is the goal of The *Arlington Advocate* to provide our readers with the highest quality local coverage they desire and need, in a newspaper that is accurate, timely and filled with an intimate and lively portrait of the community in which they live, work and play.

Wildlife board needs more than hunters

On election eve, Gov. Paul Cellucci, having delayed his decision for more than two months, re-appointed three hunters to the Board of the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW), the agency that manages our wildlife.

This move is a shocking insult to all those, who in the past six months, have contacted the governor asking him to bring this board into the 21st century by diversifying its composition and making it representative of the values and wishes of all Massachusetts citizens — in compliance with the spirit and intent of the 1996 Wildlife Protection Act (Question 1).

For decades now, this powerful board has been a hunters' board, focusing its management of our wildlife on producing large populations of animals for the sporting community. This "management" has been very successful. We now have 90,000 deer and 60,000 beaver in this state (DFW numbers), a scenario designed to sell hunting and trapping licenses — monies which go directly to DFW — and to force open public lands previously closed to hunting.

These numbers, however, undoubtedly, have impacted on the viability of other more vulnerable species.

At the same time, numbers of hunters and trappers have significantly declined and this has created dangerous situations for the public at large. Deer/car collisions take lives — human as well as deer.

Beavers, which well before the Question 1 Law was in place, were multiplying rapidly, have caused flooding damage for which the division has refused to implement available solutions such as water flow devices, widely used in other states and other countries. Now their only "solution" to beaver/human and deer/human conflicts is to kill the animals.

If any kind of professional, scientific management for the public good had been in place, we would not have these unhealthy lopsided populations of animals. But this is a hunters' board — seven members, seven hunters — grounded in 19th century thinking, catering to a tiny minority of "sportsmen."

Its members have held these five-year term seats for decades — one for 23 years. Four of its seven members have absolutely no professional wildlife training whatsoever. Their official DFW bios highlight "qualifications" such as "avid outdoorsman," "member of the NRA," "sportsman-of-the-year," "Gun Owner Action

League" awards, and member of the "Eight Point Sportsmen's Club."

As chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, Doug Petersen, said in *The Globe*, "It's (the board) wholly independent. It's isolated and insulated and doesn't represent the interests of the commonwealth."

We believe the goals of wildlife management should be to preserve and restore healthy-balanced populations of all our native wildlife. This would ensure healthy

balanced ecosystems in which they — and we — would all prosper.

We are supported in these beliefs by a bloc of 51 state and federal legislators who, personally, over the last few months, have all contacted the governor asking him to diversify this board to represent the values of all citizens. This effort has broad editorial endorsement from the state's newspapers, from academics at our universities, the MSPCA, the Animal Rescue League, our almost 200,000 members and the public at large.

We ran a slate of impeccably-qualified candidates for three vacant seats. They were a world-renowned beaver expert — a Boston University wildlife biologist; a UMass professor of environmental economics, and a Zoo New England overseer. They were interviewed by the governor's office and we felt optimistic about their appointments.

Instead the governor delayed and delayed and finally on election eve issued a news release re-appointing the same three hunters to the board. This is unacceptable.

Today's Bay State citizens have many more varied interests and values in wildlife than simply killing it for fun. We want democratic representation on this board. It's time for fresh ideas, state-of-the-art expertise, modern management techniques and professional wildlife leadership. Our wildlife does not belong to this tiny minority of "mountain men." It's time for change.

Gov. Cellucci, we ask for an explanation. Why have you ignored the will of the people and your own Legislature? Why do you refuse to allow real wildlife management in this state? Why are you denying 98 percent of Massachusetts citizens a voice on the management of their wildlife? You owe the voters and taxpayers an explanation.

Mary de La Valette is spokesperson on wildlife issues for the Massachusetts Network for Animals.

Guest Columnist

MARY DE LA VALETTE

LETTERS, FROM PAGE 8

Some sledding pointers

For everyone who sang, "Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow!" during the holidays: your wish came true. And with all this great snow, comes sledding season at Robbins Farm.

There are two sledding hills at the Farm — Baseball Hill, which is a long, gentle, rolling slope and Boston Hill (a.k.a. "Suicide Hill" among the locals), which is a steep, short hill that ends abruptly for most against some hay bales and a chain link fence.

The Friends of Robbins Farm discussed sledding at our most recent meeting. There was concern raised that people sledding "Suicide Hill" may not be aware of the dangers there, although it seems pretty obvious once you take your first run. So here are some "common sense precautions" for sledding at Robbins Farm.

Powdery, deep snow will sufficiently slow a run down the big hill so sledders tend not to barrel into the fence full steam. However, we are usually blessed with a heavier, wetter snow. That snow tends to get really fast as it gets packed down. No sled runners or grooves can penetrate that hard pack and you can really build up some speed by the time you near the bottom of the slope.

Each year, children and adults alike are injured sledding at Robbins Farm. Sometimes it's just bad bruises; sometimes a fractured arm or leg. So parents, please warn your older kids to consider sledding the gentler hill when they go to Robbins Farm unaccompanied. And if you are supervising younger kids or sledding yourselves, you'll probably want to save yourself the dread and terror and stick with the kinder, gentler Baseball Hill.

Then there is the matter of safety in numbers. Baseball Hill tends to get really crowded toward midday and on until sunset. (Crowding is certainly one of the reasons many move on to Boston Hill in search of whiter pastures.)

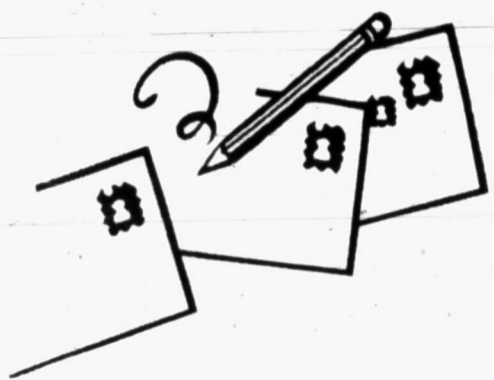
These are likely the accepted rules of sledding, but it won't hurt to go over them again. It's important that sledders move out of the way at the bottom of the hill to avoid collisions. Too often, kids are dawdling at the bottom, possibly reminiscing about their recent great run, only to get mowed over by a toboggan full of sledders.

Go down, move to the sides to climb back up (don't climb up the middle where everyone is trying to go down), watch the top of the hill to avoid sledders, and don't start a run until the way is clear.

And have a fun sledding season!

Susan Bernhard Publicity Committee
Friends of Robbins Farm

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Holiday tradition

For many people from Arlington and well beyond the Arlington Boys & Girls Club, the Christmas Tree Sale has become a holiday tradition. This was expressed by countless visitors to the club over the past several weeks. From the club staff, directors, alumni and friends, including the Arlington High football team and Rotary Club, your generous efforts to enhance this tradition greatly benefit the experience shared by 4,000 club members. We also thank the many supporters who are making their tree purchase at the club a holiday tradition. We have been selling trees for more than 30 years and we value and appreciate our many loyal customers.

Jim Nicholson, Rick Joly, Steve Pooley,
Co-Chairmen Daniel F. Brosnan, Executive
Director Arlington Boys & Girls Club

Appreciates help

On behalf of Frank Bowes, I would like to thank the Arlington Lodge of Elks for donating their hall and a special thanks to Pay Casey and Lynne Cabral for preparing and serving a wonderful turkey dinner on Christmas Day for all who attended, and who would have otherwise been "eating alone on Christmas Day."

Bob Bowes

Go Arlington

Iwould like to use your forum to congratulate one of the Arlington Youth Hockey Squirt teams (you know who you are).

I tip my hat to each and every one of you including your coaches for the sportsmanlike conduct shown by all of you during a recent game. During a recent game the opposing team chose to play the very physical style of play including tripping, cross-checking and the all time favorite of tapping the opposition

in the side when the puck was taken away from him or her by the other team — not a good move in my book for sure.

As the parent of a team member, I was very proud to see the Arlington team play a good, fair game, no cross-checking, tripping, etc. Each and every one of you should be congratulated for keeping your head in the game and not losing your momentum in the face of such unsportsmanlike conduct.

I, for one, tip my hat to each of you and your coaches who have taught you well. You all played an awesome game. You worked hard and played by the rules. I am proud to have a child playing for the Arlington Squirt Team which shows its sportsmanlike conduct and respect for others at each and every game — win or lose. You are all winners to me.

Congratulations, guys and girls, you are a team to be proud of. Keep those heads held high. Good luck to each and every one of you during the district finals. You can be sure I will be in the stands cheering at loud as I possibly can for each and every one of you. Thank you for the awesome games. I have enjoyed each and every one of them.

Coaches and assistant coach, I tip my hat to you all and the way you have taught your players sportsmanlike conduct and respect for each other and the opposition. Good Luck Arlington Squirts — you are #1 in my book. Go Arlington!

Sue Morrissey

Teacher sends thanks

My class, "The Theatre of the Holocaust," and I would like to thank the following businesses for their wonderful support via gift certificates for our first raffle and fundraising event: T & C Jewelers, Peter's Solution Hair Salon, Brigham's, Main Event Tuxedo, Fitness First, Just Blossoming, Crossroads, Via Lago, Coyote Impressions and Carberry's.

Thank you.

M. Raduazzo
English Department
Arlington High School

Well done

We should take our hats off and say thanks to the Department of Public Works, Sanitation, Police and Fire departments of Arlington for a wonderful job performed this year. They are out doing their job regardless of the weather.

The population is growing, and activity in town is increasing. So should the force that protects and serves our community.

Rudy D'Addario

GOVERNMENT ADDRESSES, NUMBERS

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Minuteman

On Wednesday, January 24th you'll see it's not as big a leap as you'd think

We're not saying all of our students go on to MIT. Some may go on to Cornell. Others may directly enter the workforce as highly skilled artisans or technicians. Find out why on Wednesday, January 24, from 7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m. at our **Open House**. Learn how Minuteman's philosophy of hands-on, exceptional learning enhances traditional academics to get results. Our diverse programs put students at the cutting edge of high technology, science and business. For more information about the Open House or to receive an invitation call Minuteman at **781-861-6500 ext.285**.

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Annual cooking event is on tap in Boston

One of the most anticipated events this month is Boston Cooks!, a 10-day celebration of food and cooking in the Greater Boston area. Based on the information I've received, this year's festivities should be as exciting as ever.

Before I get into those details, I must mention two special events that are preceding Boston Cooks! this year. The Spinazzola Gala Festival of Food and Wine is taking place at the World Trade Center on Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m. Put on your creative black tie and be prepared for a memorable evening of food and drink to benefit The Spinazzola Foundation. Tickets cost \$175 and can be purchased by calling 1-781-344-4413.

The 10th annual Boston Wine Expo will be held at the World Trade Center, Jan. 20 and 21 from 1 to 5 p.m. The expo is the largest consumer wine tasting in the United States, with 450 wineries from 17 countries participating. There will be seminars, celebri-

ty chef demonstrations, a vintner's dinner, and Sunday brunch — plus the first-ever Bread and Circus Food Pavilion. Advance tickets cost \$60 for one day; \$82 for both. Purchase tickets at www.wine-expos.com or call 1-877-946-3976. A limited number of tickets will be sold and a portion of the proceeds assists local charities.

Now to Boston Cooks! The event begins with the Kitchen and Culinary Expo at the World Trade Center from Jan. 26 to 28. More than 100 exhibitors will participate, including Bertolli USA, Inc., the American Institute of Food and Wine, KitchenAid, and Peet's Coffee and Tea. Expo highlights include hourly cooking demonstrations, cookbook signings, a kids' kitchen, and culinary roundtable discussions. Gourmet food samples will be plentiful and new kitchen gadgets will be available for purchase. Tickets are \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door. Seniors receive a \$2 discount; children aged 12 and under are admitted free. Purchase tickets at Star Market or Shaw's.

Le Meridien Hotel, 250 Franklin St., is sponsoring the Boston Cooks! Gala on Mon., Jan. 29, from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. This reception, benefiting the Greater Boston Food Bank and The Anthony Spinazzola Founda-

tion, provides a unique opportunity to meet and mingle with local and national chefs and cookbook authors and purchase autographed cookbooks. The menu will feature fine wines and gourmet cuisine prepared by the best local chefs and caterers. (Last year, a caterer from Arlington participated.) Call 451-1900, ext. 7062 to buy tickets, which cost \$55.

The cookbook dine around festival, Jan. 26 to Feb. 4, is always a treat, with national chefs teaming up with local chefs to create fabulous dishes from their cookbooks. This year's visiting chefs include Claudine Pépin, Joanne Weir, Charlie Palmer, Paula Lambert, John Willoughby, and Rick Bayless. I'm also delighted to report that Jeffrey Alford, co-author of Hot, Sour, Salty, Sweet (Artisan), one of the best cookbooks of 2000, will be at The Elephant Walk in North Cambridge on Jan. 29. Call the individual restaurant for information. Visit www.bostoncooks.com for more details and the complete dine around schedule.

I plan to attend several of these events. Look for my write up in the February Food and Thought in the Arlington Advocate.

Send comments to Anne-Marie Seltzer, The Arlington Advocate, 9 Meriam St., Lexington, MA 02173. E-mail: amseltzer@yahoo.com.

Food & Thought



ANNE-MARIE SELTZER

BOARD OF SELECTMEN NOTES

The Board of Selectmen met Monday, Jan. 8 for approximately 90 minutes. Selectmen Charles Lyons, Jack Hurd, Diane Mahon, and Kathleen Kiehl Dias were in attendance.

• Despite requests from the Open Space Committee, board members refused to comment on executive session proceedings on the lawsuit filed against Dante Muzzioli.

Muzzioli allegedly violated the town's zoning bylaws when he cut into an embankment that was part of the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Bikeway.

On April 9 of last year, the

Board of Selectmen gave Town Counsel John Maher and Building Inspector Michael Byrne the go-ahead and sue Muzzioli to remove his parking strip and restore the embankment that Muzzioli had cut into as part of his shop, D. Muzzioli Associates, at 24 Ryder St. The work cut into the embankment of the bikeway, stopping short of the bike path itself.

Open Space Committee Representative Anne LeRoy said she not only wanted an update on the lawsuit, but would like to discuss future policy with the board on how to deal with infringe-

ment on the bikeway's path and other areas they manage.

"The Open Space Committee has a charge to be watchdogs of open space," said Selectman Diane Mahon in support of LeRoy.

• A group of Arlington residents, represented by Kathy Colwell, have started a non-profit corporation with aspirations to develop an independent corporation to run Arlington's local public, educational, and governmental television programming.

Calling themselves The Arlington Community Media, Inc., Colwell said the group is hoping to use money that cable company RCN will provide to the town to begin an independent cable corporation. The corporation will develop and administer community programming in the town.

"Federal law allows the town to have up to 5 percent of the local revenues from a cable provider," Colwell said.

RCN wants to offer a cash donation, while AT&T Broadband (formerly MediaOne) offers in-kind donations.

The town is currently negotiating with RCN for a cable contract. Currently, local access programming is not carried by RCN.

RCN argues that AT&T Broadband has not granted RCN access. So some residents get local programming and not others.

Selectman Jack Hurd reiterated the board's frustration with the scenario.

"Every time I get a phone call about RCN, I ask, 'where are you on your local programming efforts, and I get a kind of silent tone,'" he said.

"I appreciate that we have an activist group," said Selectman Charles Lyons, but cautioned that the power over how to spend that money should rest with the board.

• Rachel Calabro from the Massachusetts Adopt-a-Stream Program awarded Ellen Mass from the Friends of the Alewife Reservation Stream Team with a plaque for her work with Alewife Brook.

Mass, with local help from Arlington resident Nicole O'Neil, conducted a survey of the reservation area in all five towns the brook has an effect in — Arlington, Medford, Somerville, Cambridge, and Belmont.

• The board reappointed Historic District Commission member Jane Piechota to a three-year term.

Official predicts 'very tough year'

■ BUDGET, FROM PAGE 1

The by-product of a budget crisis like this is level funding for each of the town's departments, which will mean a necessity of more savvy fiscal management on everybody's part.

"Everybody gets what they got last year and you eat your pay raises," said Tosti at the meeting.

Tosti compiled a list of "major possible positives," but many of these involve the review of systems. While beneficial to long-term fiscal health, don't put money in the big town wallet this year.

The only concrete numbers so far are an anticipated increase from the state's building assistance fund for the Otton Middle School (an estimated \$400,000) and a decrease of \$30,000 in what the town pays the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority for transit services.

That fiscal stance will not rest well with many.

Superintendent of Schools Kathleen Donovan, presenting the budget crisis and her own budget to members of the School Committee Tuesday, said, "This is a killer."

Her own budget, which she said she attempted to present as a no-frills, no-whistles approach, still proposes a 7.5 percent increase, from \$29.2 million to \$31.4 million.

A dismayed School Committee voted for it, despite committee member Denis Sullivan reflecting the feelings of his fellow members when he said, "This is worse than bare bones."

Her worries are exacerbated by a program within the teachers' contract that nets teachers \$35 a day when they retire for every day of sick leave they don't use. Based on the early retirement program approved by the state, Arlington anticipates a number of retirees this year and Donovan estimates the amount of sick leave they have left totals \$180,000.

Director of Police Services Fred Ryan, a little surprised upon hearing the news, said Tuesday, "I guess I will say that we will continue to

examine the current situation to arrive at a mutually agreed upon solution."

Ryan is asking for an approximately 20 percent budget increase for FY '02, including five police officers assigned to a traffic and parking management unit. He's also requesting two lieutenants, one to supervise the traffic unit, and one to administer the community service division, and a captain to be in charge of professional standards and accreditation.

Asked if he expected to get the added positions, Ryan said, "No. I know that budget requests have to go through the budget process. I will try to affirmatively promote the mission... The traffic and parking is urgent, as outlined in the community survey, the number one issue affecting the quality of life are traffic and parking violations. That unit is essential."

He added, "Level funding equates to a budget cut. Our resource demands far exceed our resources."

During the selectman's meeting Monday, board member Kathleen Kiehl Dias suggested that the town examine entering into a state-wide consortium of health insurance to reduce the cost.

"We are certainly not unique in Massachusetts," Dias said of the town's ascending insurance costs.

Both Lyons and Donovan touted the possibility of at least including retirees in a state-wide health plan to reduce the cost through numbers. Donovan said the School Committee rejected the idea years ago, but could ask once more for inclusion.

On the school side, the board planned to invite Arlington's state congressional delegation to the next meeting to get them to apply pressure for state aid numbers.

Faced with the deficit, Tosti said the Finance Committee will meet with department heads.

"Unless they come up with something significant, we're going to level-fund the budget. It's going to be a very, very, tough year."

Funding project overrun gets thumbs up from state

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

The state Department of Revenue sent word to Town Counsel John Maher Monday that the cost overruns in building and designing Arlington's seven elementary schools can be added to the debt exclusion.

Maher requested that the department generate an opinion on whether the town can include the \$1.6 million in additional expenditures in order to preserve the reimbursement of 63 percent the town receives from the state.

The Permanent Town Building Committee had asked Maher to draft the letter.

Those additional costs included \$450,000 for the Brackett School to fix a broken fuel line,

\$600,000 for the additional design costs for the Thompson and Stratton schools and \$500,000 in unexpected costs for the Hardy school, which included asbestos removal from the building.

The Department of Revenue indicated to Maher that the expenditures did not represent additional amenities, but rather unforeseen circumstances and costs "consistent with the rate of inflation and the increase in construction costs."

"Obviously, it's good news," Maher said to the board.

The town approved the original debt exclusion with a 59 percent vote in 1998 to the tune of \$23 million. That debt exclusion allowed the town to preclude the costs from the state-imposed limit on property taxes.

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LEXINGTON POPS

19TH Annual Winter Concert

The 19th Annual Winter Concert of the Lexington Pops Chorus, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, January 12 and 13, 2001, at 8:00 p.m. at the Hancock United Church of Christ on Lexington Green will be a treat for a variety of musical tastes. Instead of choosing a single major work for the first half, this year the entire concert will consist of both classical and modern music intended to illustrate a wide range of mood, tempo, and subject matter. In addition to English selections, Latin, German, Hebrew, and Spanish pieces will be presented. The 18th Century *Decette in Gemitus* by Anton Adlgasser will be set against the beautiful Israeli Desert Song, *Erev Shel Shoshanim* ("Evening of Roses") and an arrangement of George Frideric Handel's *Prepare the Hymn* may be followed by an Irish Folk song, the *Gartan Mother's Lullaby*. Franz Schubert's *Jagerchor* (a German Hunter Chorus) may be set against Philip Kern's arrangement of *Chariot*, based on the spirituals "Gonna Ride Up in the Chariot" and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot". The beloved Scottish folk song, *Loch Lomond*, may be contrasted with the more modern classic, *Lazy River*, by Hoagy Carmichael.

The LPC is under the direction of Robert A. Lague, Director of Fine Arts in the Stoneham School System and Organist/Choir director at the First Congregational Church in Natick. The group's accompanist is Richard Scalfise, summa cum laude graduate of Boston University where he earned his Master of Arts degree in Composition.

Tickets purchased prior to the concert cost \$10.00 and may be obtained from members of the chorus at The Lexington Ticket Center, located at 1620 Massachusetts Avenue, (rear) Lexington, (781) 862-5333. Tickets purchased at the door on the evening of the performance cost \$12.00.

For further information, contact
Regina Pesin at (781) 861-9139 or Warren Johnson at (781) 641-9866